United States House of Representatives



## Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations

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#### \*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\*

For Immediate Release March 22, 2006

# Chairman Shays to Hold Hearing on Investigative Priorities of U.S. Department of Homeland Security Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement

(Washington, DC) -- Rep. Christopher Shays (CT-4), Chairman of the House Government Reform Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations, today announced the panel will convene an oversight hearing to examine how the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) sets investigative priorities. ICE, the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), is responsible for identifying and shutting down vulnerabilities in the nation's border, economic, transportation and infrastructure security.

The hearing will be held March 28, 2:00p.m. in room 2247 of the Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. Witnesses from federal agencies and private organizations will be invited to discuss additional safeguards that the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement may require to ensure national security considerations are included in decisions to allocate investigative resources.

"This DHS office has a broad range of missions," Shays said. "The number and urgency of immigration violations, financial investigations, narcotics smuggling, human trafficking and counterterrorism cases ebb and flow throughout the year. We need to know how ICE decides to focus limited investigative resources and how new national security issues are evaluated against the more traditional law enforcement portfolio."

At the hearing, witnesses will discuss the findings of a Government Accountability Office report requested by the Subcommittee entitled, *Homeland Security: Better Management Practices Could Enhance DHS's Ability to Allocate Investigative Resources*.

# <u>WITNESSES</u>

# PANEL ONE

#### Mr. Richard M. Stana

Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues U.S. Government Accountability Office

#### Mr. Richard L. Skinner

Inspector General U.S. Department of Homeland Security

#### Mr. Robert Schoch

Deputy Assistant Director National Security Division Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Investigations U.S. Department of Homeland Security

### PANEL TWO

# Dr. Joseph Ryan

Chair and Professor of Criminal Justice and Sociology Pace University

# Ms. Caroline Fredrickson

Director

ACLU Washington Legislative Office

# Mr. Joseph Webber

Special Agent in Charge (Retired)
Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement
U.S. Department of Homeland Security